



**May 4, 2015**

---

## **Local Agency Conference Call**

Our local agency conference call is on Thursday, May 7<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am. Please see the [draft agenda](#) and have pertinent staff participate on the call. We will be reviewing WIC fiscal topics (grants, how money can be spent, etc.) so please have someone on the call that is knowledgeable about your budget and expenditures (Coordinator, Director or fiscal staff).

**Reminder:** Local Agency Conference Calls are every other month, first Thursday, starting at 9 am. The schedule for the remainder of the year is **June 4<sup>th</sup> (NEW)**, **August 6<sup>th</sup>**, **October 1<sup>st</sup>**, and **December 3<sup>rd</sup>**. We are having an extra conference call next month to train on the next SPIRIT release (2.22) which will be rolled out June 11th.

---

## **FFY 2016 Funding Formula**

On April 1<sup>st</sup> and on April 30<sup>th</sup>, the WIC Futures Study Group met to discuss and vote on the WIC Funding formula for Federal Fiscal Year 2016. Attached here are the [minutes from the conference call](#) on April 30<sup>th</sup> and the [funding formula](#) agreed upon by the members as well as the WIC state office. This funding is always contingent on final grant amounts by USDA and is subject to change. Contract packets will be sent to local agencies over the summer with more information about FFY 2016.

---

## **Revised Income Guidelines:**

On March 31, 2015, the U.S. Department of Agriculture announced [adjusted income eligibility guidelines](#) to be used by State agencies in determining the income eligibility of persons applying to participate in the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children Program (WIC). These income eligibility guidelines are to be used in conjunction with the WIC Regulations and will be valid for July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016.

---

## **Reminder—Breastfeeding Peer Counselor Annual Report is Coming Due**

An annual report of information and/or activities from May 2014 through April 2015 for BPCPs is due on May 15<sup>th</sup>. Electronic versions are great, but paper is acceptable. These reports are used to create the annual report which is submitted with our State Plan application for next year. Please email it to Chris at [cfogelman@mt.gov](mailto:cfogelman@mt.gov), or fax it to Chris at 406-444-0239 or mail it to Chris.

---

---

## Rumors of a Similac Recall are False

Abbott is not recalling any Similac sold in retail stores or received as a sample.

The information being shared is outdated. It is from 2010 and is being recirculated in social media. If your participants or staff ever want to check Similac recall information in the future, they can do this two ways: (1) Check our Facebook page or (2) Call us at 1-800-986-8800. Abbott will keep state agencies apprised of share safety or recall information on Similac products.

---

## Local Agency Outreach Tip of the Month

May's outreach idea is to expand your presence in your community through having materials/display, staff, etc. at any function that is happening in the community. Schools, churches, county health departments, OPA offices, etc. – invite others to help you grow your WIC participation! Asking is all it takes sometimes.

---

USDA prohibits discrimination in the administration of its programs

Help us keep the distribution list updated - send e-mail address changes, additions and deletions to the WIC State Office at 1-800-433-4298.

